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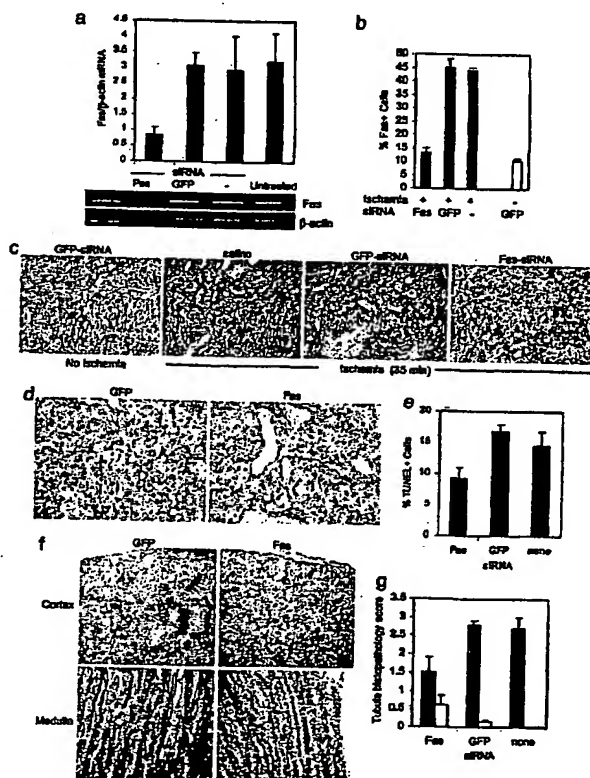
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(54) Title: METHODS FOR TREATING AND PREVENTING ISCHEMIA-REPERFUSION INJURY USING RNA INTERFER-
ING AGENTS



(57) Abstract: The present invention is based, at least in part, on the discovery of methods useful in the modulation, e.g., inhibition, of gene expression or protein activity, e.g., apoptosis-related gene expression, e.g., Fas gene expression or cytokine expression, e.g., proinflammatory cytokine expression. In particular, the present invention is based on novel RNA interfering agents, e.g., siRNA molecules which target apoptosis-related genes, and result in reduction, e.g., prolonged reduction, of apoptosis-related gene expression or cytokine expression in cells. Inhibition of apoptosis-related gene expression or protein activity or cytokine gene expression or protein activity, e.g., by the siRNAs used in the methods of the invention, inhibits ischemia-reperfusion injury.